

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 AGR-20 OIC-04 NEA-14 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02

TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01

USIE-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 /185 R

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APPROVED BY IO/CMD:JWMCDONALD

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: ECAFE

SUBJECT: ECAFE: ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT

REPRESENTATIVES, MAY 29, 1974

REF: A) BANGKOK 7370; B) BANGKOK 8243; C) BANGKOK
8244; D) BANGKOK 8415

1. REGRET VERY MUCH THAT ONE-WEEK'S ABSENCE OF
ECAFE DESK OFFICER HAS MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO ANSWER
REFTELS UNTIL NOW. EVEN IF THAT HAD NOT BEEN THE CASE,
HOWEVER, TIME WOULD HAVE BEEN UNAVAILABLE FOR NECESSARY
DETAILED REVIEW OF RELEVANT DOCUMENTS BY MANY
INTERESTED WASHINGTON AGENCIES IN VERY BRIEF PERIOD
PERMITTED BY LATE ISSUANCE OF ECAFE DOCUMENTATION.

2. DESPITE THESE PROBLEMS, WE DO WANT TO MAKE

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES USEFUL

BODY WITH SOME SIGNIFICANT SUBSTANTIVE POWER. WE, THEREFORE, HOPE MAY 29 MEETING WILL BE LIMITED AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE TO ORGANIZATIONAL AND PROCEDURAL MATTERS, AS WELL AS DISCUSSION OF REVISED SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS. AND THAT FURTHER MEETINGS WILL BE SCHEDULED FOR JUNE AND JULY SO MORE CAREFUL PREPARATIONS WILL BE POSSIBLE FOR OTHER AGENDA ITEMS. WE AGREE COMPLETELY WITH SUGGESTIONS (REFTEL D) ABOUT KEEPING THESE MEETINGS AS INFORMAL AND INEXPENSIVE AS POSSIBLE.

3. UNEC DOCUMENTS PREPARED FOR 30TH ECAFE PLENARY SESSION ARE STILL VALID AND MAY BE USED AS NECESSARY IN MAY 29 MEETING. ON OTHER POINTS, YOU SHOULD BE GUIDED BY FOLLOWING:

A. WE APPROVE NEW ZEALAND PROPOSAL (REFTEL D) THAT AGENDA ITEM ON "PROGRAM OF WORK AND PROCEDURES FOR FOLLOWING PERIOD" BE INCLUDED IN THIS AND/OR FUTURE PR MEETING. IN FACT IT WAS OUR UNDERSTANDING IN COLOMBO THAT SINCE SUBSTANTIVE REVIEW OF WORK PROGRAM WAS RELATIVELY BRIEF ONE IN DRAFTING COMMITTEE, IT WAS SPECIFICALLY AGREED THAT PERMREPS WOULD REVIEW SUBSTANCE OF WORK PROGRAM DURING SUMMER (SEE PARA 2 OF PART II/8 OF DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT)- WE, OF COURSE, HAVE NO OBJECTION IF THERE IS ALSO DISCUSSION OF WORK PROGRAM'S FORMAT (WHICH IS IN SAD NEED OF CHANGE) AND ANY PROGRAM REVISIONS GROWING OUT OF COLOMBO DECISIONS.

B. WITH ONE EXCEPTION WE HAVE NO PROBLEMS WITH REVISED SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS. EXCEPTION IS, WELL-KNOWN ONE INVOLVING DISCRIMINATORY MEETING IN PREPARATION FOR UNIDO II. US DELEGATION JUST RETURNED FROM UNIDO INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD (8TH SESSION) CONFIRMS THAT NO RPT NO REGIONAL COMMISSION OTHER THAN ECAFE PLANS TO HAVE EXCLUSIVE PREPARATORY MEETING INCLUDING ONLY PORTION OF ITS MEMBERSHIP. YOU MIGHT NOTE THAT, AS MEANS TO PERMIT G-77 OR ANY OTHER GROUP TO CONSIDER POSITIONS AMONG THEMSELVES, OPPORTUNITY WILL BE GIVEN FOLLOWING FIRST PORTION UPCOMING DECEMBER VIENNA MEETING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF UNIDO PERMANENT COUNCIL FOR PRIVATE GATHERINGS OF SUCH SUB-GROUPS.

C. AS FOR INTRAREGIONAL CODES FOR VARIOUS ASPECTS OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (REFTEL B), OUR STRONG PREFERENCE IS FOR INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS. COUNTRIES INVOLVED COULD FIND USE OF PURELY REGIONAL CODES OR STANDARDS UNECONOMIC.

D. PROPOSAL MADE ABOUT DEVELOPING FLEETS OF TANKERS (REFTEL C) INVOLVES HIGHLY COMPLEX SUBJECT. SINCE WE DO NOT HAVE TIME FOR DETAILED COMMENT NOW, YOU SHOULD, IF NECESSARY, PROPOSE ADDING THIS SUBJECT TO AGENDA OF AN APPROPRIATE FUTURE MEETING TO DETERMINE WHETHER IT IS ONE IN WHICH ECAFE SHOULD BECOME INVOLVED.

E. RE SHIFTS IN WORK PROGRAMS (REFTEL C), WE ARE SURPRISED THERE NO PROPOSED INCREASE FOR AGRICULTURE, CONSIDERING THE MANY OTHER SUBJECTS FOR WHICH

"SUBSTANTIAL ADDITIONS" ARE RECOMMENDED. WE CANNOT APPROVE ADDING SEVEN NEW POSITIONS TO ENERGY SECTION. WE AGREE ON IMPORTANCE OF ENERGY, BUT ANY NEW WORK SHOULD BE COVERED BY REDUCING PRIORITY OF SELECTED OLDER PROJECTS AND THUS SHIFTING PERSONNEL ALREADY ON ROLES. RUSH

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